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International Association of Marine Science Libraries and Information Centers

newsletter

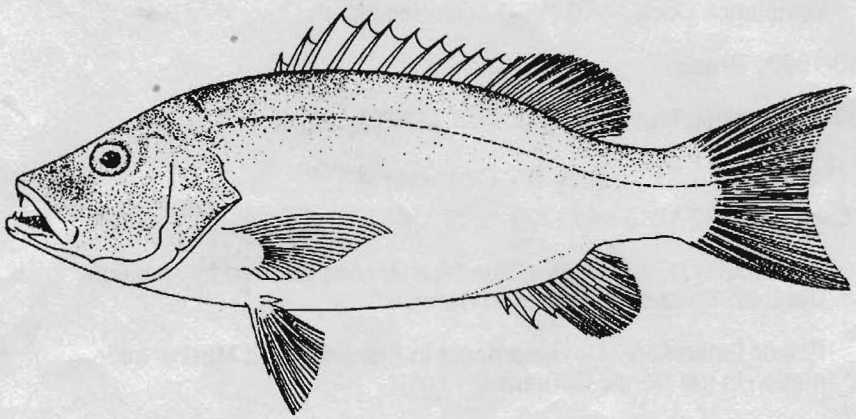
Number Thirty-two
September 1989

FROM THE PRESIDENT . . . . . *Cecile Thiery*

Iamslic at a Crossroads: this is the challenging title chosen by our program convenor, Sharon Thomson, for this year's conference. Does that mean that our association is confronted with questions concerning its development and future and has decisions to make?

Personally, I see many questions which arise from the fact that IAMSLIC is becoming increasingly international, which is, of course, one of its goals. Members from third world countries have become more numerous. Consequently, we have new responsibilities and we should find ways to help these members as much as we can. Too often they are unable to attend our yearly conference, which is the privileged time when we meet each other and establish good working relationships and friendly ties. Luckily, there are a few exceptions thanks to the generosity of several organizations; but we should explore carefully all other possible solutions. It also means that we have to strengthen our main channel of communication: the newsletter. Some of us are already very conscious of its essential role and support it by providing its editor with a number of items and news. In addition to our proceedings, we could also publish manuals, bibliographies, directories... or contribute to such publications. Some organizations have expressed their willingness to cooperate with us on this matter. Should we also plan to promote and coordinate training sessions and special professional courses?

These questions are not new - they have been raised on several occasions, and if we cannot implement any of these beautiful ideas yet, it is probably due to the size and the structure of the association. Perhaps now is the time to analyze this situation and discuss it. In any event, the conference this year will bring once more the opportunity for us to meet, with a strong program and a very international participation. The Bermuda Biological Station has received a large number of registrations so far, and seems quite able to successfully handle any hurricane threat... je vous donne rendez-vous aux bermudes. A bientot! See you soon!



The IAMSLIC Newsletter is published three times a year, in May, September and December.

EDITOR: *Kristen L. Metzger*
Omnet/Sciencenet: ***HBOI.LIBRARY***

IAMSLIC '89

BERMUDA BIOLOGICAL STATION
2-6 OCTOBER 1989

PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP

BERMUDA BIOLOGICAL STATION

2 OCTOBER 1989

Open Channels: Electronic Access to the Literature of the Marine Sciences

Organizers:

Tom Moritz, California Academy of Sciences

Mary Jane Beardsley, Marine Information Services

K. Eric Marshall, Freshwater Institute

The Workshop on electronic access to marine science literature will be chaired by Tom Moritz, with Mary Jane Beardsley and Eric Marshall. Cost $50.

Attendees will gain a working literacy in computer-based telecommunications as well as a practical functional understanding.

Some of the proposed items are -

1. Brief introduction to telecommuncations technology/networks (local to international)

2. General introduction to machine communications and associated hardware/software.

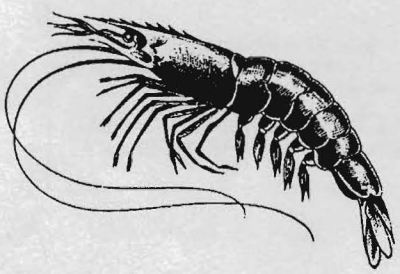
3. Discussion of electronic mail including the various systems and networks available.

4. Using Sciencenet as an example, a detailed presentation of the full range of features on Sciencenet.

5. Presentation on databases available on Sciencenet.

6. Costs/benefits of e-mail.

7. Group discussion on how e-mail may be used, plus brainstorming about future applications.



CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Day 1 - October 2, 1989

- Conference registration and evening reception. Carol Winn will speak informally at the reception on the founding and history of IAMSLIC.

Day 2 - October 3, 1989

830 - Opening greeting from Cecile Thiery, President

Welcome from Dr. A.H. Knap, Director, Bermuda Biological Station

835 - 1230 - SESSION 1

Peter Brueggeman, Moderator

Daniel T. Richards, Keynote Speaker "Collection Evaluation and Assessment in Science Libraries" part 1.

Break and opportunity for discussion with Mr. Richards. Daniel Richards continues, part 2.

Panel presents papers; each speaker briefly introduced by Peter Brueggeman.

Beth. M. Paskoff "Collection Profiles of Marine Science Libraries: Understanding our Collections Better Evaluation"

Elizabeth Fuseler-McDowell "Collection Evaluation and Development Using Citation Analysis Techniques"

Doris C. Williams "Using Core Journals to Justify Subscriptions and Services"

K. Eric Marshall "Evaluation of Current Periodical Subscriptions in the Freshwater Institute Library"

Joseph Wible "Comparative Analysis of Citation Studies Swept Use, and ISI's Impact Factors as Tools for Journal Deselection"

Questions regarding presented papers.

1230 - Lunch

1330-1430 SESSION 2

Linda Temprosa - Moderator

Tom Moritz " Geographic Information Systems; an introduction and selective review"

Constance Cook "ARC/INFO in Connecticut"

1430-1500 - Break

1500 - Committee Meetings - ALL WELCOME!

Day 3 - October 4

SESSION 1 - 830-1200 and 1330-1500

Allan Varley / Cecile Thiery "European Marine Science Information Centres: Towards a European Network"

Eirikur Einarsson " Developments in Fisheries and Marine Information in the Nordic Countries"

Ivan Bukhanevich /Anatoly Elizerov "The Information Centre of the All-Union Institute of Marine Fisheries and Oceanography, USSR"

Sofia Goulala "Bibliography on Oceanography and Fisheries in Greek Seas, Rivers and Lakes

Marubeth Ortega "Brackish Water Aquaculture Information System and Recent Developments in Fisheries and Information in Southeast Asia"

Ross Thrasher "Pacific Islands Marine Resources Information Service"

Jay Maclean "ICLARM's African Fisheries Information Service

Boris Fabres / Maritza Hee Houng "Trinidad and Tobago Fisheries and Marine Information Service"

Robert Freeman / Deborah Hanfman "REGIS, a Regional Information System for African Aquaculture"

1500 - Break

1530 - Business Meeting 1

Day 4 - October 5

830-930 - SESSION 1

Kristen Metzger - Moderator

Cathy Norton "Money; where is it?"

Judy Ashmore "Using Library Services for Fund Raising"

Jay Tashiro - on Fundraising but title not set.

930-1230 - SESSION 2

J. Elizabeth Sutherland - Moderator

(This is sort of a "Captain's Plate)

David E. Coleman "Pacific Regional Aquaculture Information Service: Applied Technology and Development of a 'Long Distance Information Service'"

Janet Powers/Mary Kearney "Research in Zoos and Aquariums"

Janice Sieburth "Global Science - Meeting Information Needs of the 1990s"

Carol Watts/Gregory Withee "NOAA's New Products for the Marine Community"

M.P. Tapaswi "How Good is the Compact Cambridge ASFA?"

James W. Markham "Online Retrieval Strategies and Database Comparisons for Literature on Macroalgae"

There will be a break from l000-l030

1030-1115

Eirikur Einarsson, Moderator

Michael Gomez "Polar Science Information Resources"

Janice Meadows "Introduction to Scott Polar Research Institute, Cambridge, England"

1115 - BUSINESS MEETING 2

1230 - CONFERENCE ENDS

Executive convenes briefly for wrap-up.

IMPORTING ASFA CD-ROM REFERENCES INTO BIBLIOGRAPHIC FILE MANAGEMENT SOFTWARE

Peter Brueggeman

Scripps Institution of Oceanography Library

The Scripps Library advises and assists Scripps researchers with their personal bibliographic file management software needs. Researchers are offered assistance with importing references into their personal databases from databases available on online databanks (eg BIOSIS, Chemical Abstracts, Medline). With one of the Library's goals being to encourage usage of ASFA CD-ROM, the import of ASFA CD-ROM references into the personal bibliographic databases of Scripps researchers is a major objective. ASFA CD-ROM references are unusual; their format does not resemble that of references obtained from online databanks. Some success has been achieved to date in importing ASFA CD-ROM references and is reported herein. Further experimentation is needed. Researchers will wish to use ASFA CD-ROM references for more than printed output; currently it is difficult to do much else with them. Cambridge Scientific Abstracts should include standardized format(s) for ASFA CD-ROM output that would be recognizable outside the ASFA CD-ROM universe. Several bibliographic file management software incorporate import capability for references downloaded from the major databanks; Cambridge should align ASFA CD-ROM output with these efforts.

Being bibliographic records, ASFA CD-ROM references have fields and field tags; for example, TI tags the title fields of source items. A field name follows each field name; for example, source titles are prefixed TI: TITLE (field tag and field name). ASFA CD-ROM records have an external format of field tags, field names, and field information; field tags and names are justified at the left margin and field information starts on a new line below the tag/name and is justified at the left margin. ASFA CD-ROM records also have an internal format. Punctuation, spaces and word proximity are characteristic of internal format. For example, author's last names are followed by a hyphen and then initials.

ASFA CD-ROM should be able to function as a bibliographic utility for creating personal databases with bibliographic file management software. The capability to import pre-existing bibliographic records is valuable because one can avoid keyboarding those records into the database. Bibliographic file management software like EndNote/EndLink (for Macintosh), Reference Manager (for IBM and Macintosh), and Pro- Cite/Biblio-Link (for IBM and Macintosh) support the import of pre-existing bibliographic records. However they vary in their import capability. Some import records having a precise external and internal format. Others import records using an algorithm that will recognize a variety of external and internal formats. Determining whether a bibliographic file management software can import ASFA CD-ROM references involves reading the documentation followed by experimentation. Since some bibliographic file management software run on Macintosh microcomputers, an ASCII file of ASFA CD-ROM references has to be converted to a Macintosh ASCII file before being used on a Macintosh. Conversion of files from IBM to Macintosh was reviewed recently (Stephanie Izarek, "Reconcilable Differences, MAC and PC", PC MAGAZINE, 8(8):175-188, 25 April 1989).

For successful importing, it may be necessary to alter the format of ASFA CD-ROM references so that they will be accepted. Reformatting may involve a suite of changes. Field tags may have to be renamed. The spatial arrangement of field tags and their corresponding fields may have to be altered. Extraneous information may have to be deleted. The internal format of field information (spaces, punctuation, word proximity) may have to be altered. Some of this is possible with special programming and some may be possible only by brute-force wordprocessing. Obviously it is desirable to determine what can be accomplished easily and then publicize the capability to one's clientele. Two utility software are available from the Scripps Library for reformatting ASFA CD-ROM references; the Library is interested in learning of others. One reformat utility works only in conjunction with the Reference Manager software. The other reformat utility converts ASFA CD-ROM references into a tagged output format similar to output from an online databank.

Provided by the producer of Reference Manager, the Reference Manager reformat utility converts ASFA CD-ROM references so that they mimic references from Cambridge Scientific Abstracts' Medline CD-ROM. As currently marketed, Reference Manager does not support importing ASFA CD-ROM references via the misnamed "Compact Cambridge" option in Reference Manager's "Import References/Database Services" menu. The "Compact Cambridge" import option actually imports only Compact Cambridge Medline references. The Reference Manager reformat utility renames ASFA CD-ROM's field tags/names to Compact Cambridge Medline's field tags/names. It works best with journal articles; references for non-journal articles will have to monitored during import and edited for completeness. Since Reference Manager readily accommodates editing individual records during import, a printout of the references being imported can be scanned during import in order to ensure that complete bibliographic citations are created.

Provided by Steven Shaner (of Kinnetic Laboratories in Carlsbad, California), the Shaner reformat utility converts ASFA CD-ROM references into field-tagged output similar to references downloaded from online databanks. Dialog (format 4 output), BRS, and STN databanks all tag their fields with a two letter tag. On these databanks, field tags are justified at the left margin with field information being indented behind the tags. ASFA CD-ROM differs. ASFA CD-ROM field tags are followed by field names. ASFA CD-ROM field information is not indented behind tags but is justified at the left margin on a new line under the field tags. The Shaner reformat utility alters all of this. It renames or reuses ASFA CD-

ROM field tags, deletes the unnecessary field names, indents all field information after field tags, and deletes other extraneous information (e.g. ASFA CD-ROM output header). The Shaner reformat utility runs either automatically wherein ASFA CD-ROM field tags are reused or interactively wherein one can rename ASFA CD-ROM field tags. For example, ASFA CD-ROM's descriptor tags (SD, BD, GD, OD) can all be renamed to DE. Since several bibliographic file management software import references from online databanks, the Shaner reformat utility is extremely useful for making ASFA CD-ROM references resemble output from an online databank. However the resemblance is only externai. Successful import may depend on how strictly the bibliographic file management software looks at the internal format of field information (eg, spaces, punctuation, word proximity). EndNote/EndLink is very flexible in this regard since it imports field information using an algorithm rather than a pre-specified format. Reference Manager is less flexible; attempts to mimic Dialog BIOSIS references with ASFA CD-ROM references failed. Perhaps mimicking other import options (databases) for Reference Manager would be successful.

If all of this sounds like it is a hassle.....well, it is. Cambridge Scientific Abstracts needs to fully consider how ASFA CD-ROM can be productively used by researchers.Increasingly, researchers will want to incorporate ASFA CD-ROM references into their personal databases. With the wide variety of databases available both online and CD-ROM and on different databanks, bibliographic file management software can only be expected to recognize formats of high-usage databases on high-usage online and CD-ROM systems. ASFA CD-ROM will not make the cut since it has a relatively small audience. Cambridge should program FORMAT option(s) into the ASFA CD-ROM software so that ASFA references can be downloaded to disk (KEEP) in regular output format(s). Dialog's tagged output format is one US standard with other databanks' (BRS, STN) output formats also being standards. At minimum, ASFA CD-ROM should be able to deliver output in a tagged format identical to tagged output from databanks offering the online ASFA (e.g. Dialog et al.). The goal of these suggested changes is increase the utility of ASFA CD-ROM references beyond appearance on a printout.

Both the Reference Manager and the Shaner reformat utilities are available from Peter Brueggeman, Scripps Inst Oceanogr Library, UCSD C075C, La Jolla, CA 92093-0175, USA. Please send an IBM formatted floppy disk. More information on the bibliographic file management software referred to above is available from the following addresses:

Reference Manager
Research Information Systems
1991 Village Park Way, Suite 205
Encinitas, CA 92024
(800)722-1227
in Calif, (619)753-3914

EndNote/EndLink
Niles & Associates
2200 Powell, Suite 765
Emeryville CA 94608
(415)655-6666

Pro-Cite/Biblio-Link
Personal Bibliographic Software
PO Box 4250
Ann Arbor MI 48106
(313) 996-1580

STATUS OF SOUTH PACIFIC MARINE INFORMATION

Ronald Archer, ICOD Program Officer for South Pacific/Caribbean

BACKGROUND

(1) In March 1987 a Meeting of the Fisheries Information Advisory Group was held in Noumea, New Caledonia to discuss the proposal of establishing a Pacific Islands Marine Resource Information System (PIMRIS).

(2) In June/July 1987 a consultancy team of Ueta Fa'Asili, Chief Fisheries Officer of Western Samoa, and Esther Williams, University Librarian of the University of the South Pacific, undertook a needs survey and feasibility study for the establishment of PIMRIS (Report published by University of the South Pacific (USP), July 1987).

(3) Above report endorsed by all independent member states at SPC Regional Technical meeting August 1987

CURRENT SITUATION

(1) Implementation of PIMRIS is now underway and established with a coordinating centre at University of the South Pacific (Fiji). Other regional partners are: SPC (Noumea); FFA (Honiara, Solomon Islands); CCOP/SOPAC (Fiji). The purpose of the current 3 year project is to strengthen existing regional services for information collection and dissemination in the South Pacific in both living and non-living resources.

(2) ICOD has funded the majority of the above activities as part of Canada's ODA.

(3) The first PIMRIS newsletter was issued April/June 1989. Further information about PIMRIS and/or a potential ASFA inputting centre should be directed to Ross Thrasher, PIMRIS Coordinator, c/o Library, U.S.P., PO Box 1168, Suva, Fiji (Fax 679 300830 Tlx Fj 2276).

(4) Ross Thrasher will be attending IAMSLIC meeting in Bermuda to report on PIMRIS.

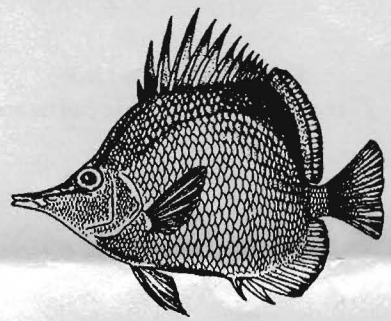
POSITION WANTED

U.S.-trained experienced science/marine science educator seeks challenging and motivating work environment in the education and/or marine information field.

A self-starter, I can work independently or as part of a team. I have travelled extensively during the last 10 years in the continental US, as well as in the Caribbean, and to Canada and India on marine information activities.

Will foward resume on request.

Write to: **Alan Duncan**, Institute of Marine Affairs, PO Box 3160, Carenage Post Office, Trinidad and Tobago.



SCUBA DIVING IN BERMUDA:

If enough people are interested, we will be happy to organise some dives during the IAMSLIC conference. These could be before, after or during the conference (eg early morning or night). If a large enough number want to go, the cost per person should be quite low.

All those who wish to take part in the dives must have an internationally recognised diving certificate. We can provide scuba tanks with backpacks, and weight belts, but divers should provide everything else themselves.

Please let me know if you are interested, and I will try to arrange something.

Fran Chatterjee, Bermuda Biological Station

PACIFIC ISLANDS MARINE RESOURCES INFORMATION SYSTEM (PIMRIS)

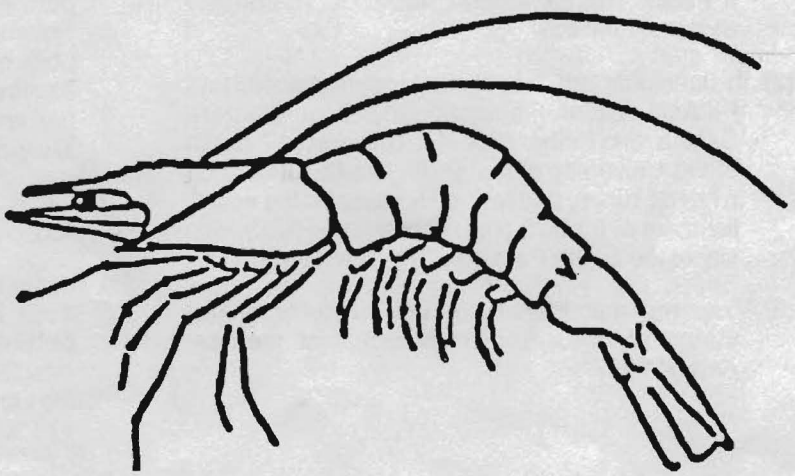
Four regional organizations in the tropical Pacific are developing PIMRIS, an information system for fisheries and marine resources. The four organizations are: the Forum Fisheries Agency based in Honiara, Solomon Islands; the University of the South Pacific, whose main campus is in Suva, Fiji; the South Pacific Commission in Noumea, New Caledonia; and the Committee for Co-Ordination of Joint Prospecting for Mineral Resources in South Pacific Offshore Areas, based in Suva. Funding for the establishment of PIMRIS has been provided by Canada's International Centre for Ocean Development.

PIMRIS is designed to serve the information needs of government officers in the 22 island countries and territories in the tropical Pacific, and the staff of regional organizations with interest in marine activities, research and training. In the first phase and throughout its operations, PIMRIS regional organizations will act as clearing houses for member countries. In the second phase or year two of the programme, it is hoped to begin development of selected PIMRIS national focal points, e.g. government fisheries departments.

A PIMRIS Coordination Unit has been established at the University of the South Pacific Library with a staff of three. Its major objectives are to:

1. Establish a regional bibliographic data base for fisheries and marine resources;
2. Produce a series of publications to include: general and specialized bibliographies, a quarterly newsletter, and brochures;
3. Provide basic information services to include: current contents, bibliographic searches, abstracting, document delivery;
4. Assist national focal points in acquiring basic trade journals and documents on fisheries and marine resources;
5. Provide professional advice and training for national focal points in establishing and organizing collections;
6. Train a regional librarian and regional library assistants.

For further information contact: Ross Thrasher, PIMRIS Coordinator, University of the South Pacific Library, P. O. Box 1168, Suva, Fiji.



NIMBUS-7

COASTAL ZONE COLOR SCANNER

JPL/NODS is pleased to announce the distribution of a Compact Disk-Read Only Memory (CD-ROM) containing the first 3 years (1979-1981) of Nimbus-7 CZCS imagery of phytoplankton pigment concentration from the western coastal region of North America (West Coast Time Series). This CD-ROM contains over 6,000 images which can be displayed on an IBM PC (or compatible) and on a Macintosh II. Image display software is distributed with the disk and the entire package (CD-ROM, software diskette and documentation) is available free from JPL/NODS.

NIMBUS-7 COASTAL ZONE COLOR SCANNER (WEST COAST TIME SERIES)

DATA TYPE: Images of phytoplankton pigment concentration

COVERAGE: 27 February 1979 - 16 June 1986 ; 20N - 55N, 105W - 140W

SMALLEST GRANULE OBTAINABLE: 1 image per day; high resolution and mosaic

REFERENCE: Abbott, M. A. and P. Zion (1987) "Spatial and temporal variability of phytoplankton pigment off Northern California during Coastal Ocean Dynamics Experiment 1 (CODE1)" Journal of Geophysical Research, 92, 1745-1755.

NOTE 1: Single scattering Rayleigh atmospheric correction used.

NOTE 2: All data available directly from M. Abbott, College of Oceanography, Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR 97331. [M.ABBOTT/OMNET].

NOTE 3: Data from 2/27/79 - 12/31/81 available on CD-ROM from JPL/NODS.

JPL/NODS looks forward to hearing from you. Questions about NODS, requests for data from JPL/NODS and from other nodes of NODS, and comments/suggestions are welcomed. Addresses for JPL/NODS are: (1) NODS.JPL on OMNET; (2) STANS::EAS on SPAN; (3) JPL/NODS, M/S 300-323, Jet Propulsion Laboratory, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, CA 91109, U.S.A.; (4) 818-354 -6980 (Elizabeth Smith); (5) telex 675429 (Attention - NODS); (6) fax 818-393-6720 (Attention - NODS).

NEW ONLINE VERSION OF ASFA INCREASES RETRIEVAL OF MARINE SCIENCE INFORMATION

Peter Brueggeman

UCSD Scripps Institution of Oceanography Library

The BRS Information Technologies databank (1200 Rt 7, Latham, NY 12110, 800- 345-4277) recently announced the loading of a life sciences database from Cambridge Scientific Abstracts. Dialog databank searchers know that Dialog loads Cambridge's databases as separate files. For example, Dialog offers Aquatic Sciences & Fisheries Abstracts (ASFA) as file 44, Oceanic Abstracts as file 28, Pollution Abstracts as file 41, and Life Sciences Collection as file 76. BRS Information Technologies loaded these four as one superfile entitled Cambridge Scientific Abstracts Life Sciences (CSAL). The appearance of CSAL is worth noting. A search of one superfile will scan more marine science information and will eliminate retrieval of duplicate citations from multiple databases.

Comparing BRS' CSAL and Dialog's corresponding databases is interesting. Time span differs. BRS CSAL covers 1981 to present while Dialog offers a longer time span for each of the corresponding databases. ASFA and Life Sciences Collection go back to 1978. Pollution Abstracts goes back to 1970. Oceanic Abstracts goes back to 1964. BRS' CSAL costs about the same as Dialog's corresponding databases. BRS' CSAL connect time is $83 per hour; it costs $4 per hour less than Dialog's ASFA, Oceanic Abstracts, and Life Sciences Collection and $1 per hour less than Dialog's Pollution Abstracts. BRS' CSAL online citations cost the same as Dialog's ASFA and Oceanic Abstracts ($0.50 each), $0.05 more than Dialog's Life Sciences Collection, and $0.10 more than Dialog's Pollution Abstracts. BRS' CSAL offline citations cost $0.45 each which is $0.05 less than Dialog's Pollution Abstracts and $0.10 less than Dialog's ASFA, Life Sciences Collection, Oceanic Abstracts.

Like ASFA CD-ROM, an unqualified word search on BRS CSAL is a global search on all fields of CSAL's records. An unqualified word search on Dialog's corresponding databases is a "basic index" search of ASFA's subject-oriented fields only. For example, a Dialog search of the truncated word "fish" will avoid retrieval of records with the truncated word "fish" appearing in author's names (eg FISHER), author's affiliation (eg Fish Res Inst), and journal name (eg FISH BULL). A subject-oriented search of BRS CSAL should have search terms suffixed with the field tags TI, AB, and DE. A sample BRS CSAL citation appears below (with truncated abstract). BRS CSAL differs from Dialog in the form of name for authors, the subset code for specific Cambridge products, and the existence of field names follow-

ing field tags. The hyphenated punctuation of author names in BRS CSAL may be an obstacle to users wishing to import records into a database. Also, for those wishing to import BRS CSAL records into a database, the field names following field tags would have to be globally deleted before import; otherwise the field names will be imported as field information. For example, the field name "AUTHOR:" can be inadvertantly imported into the author field of a database.

AN ACCESSION NUMBER: 1963237. 8905.

AU AUTHOR: Kim-S-W. Onbe-T. Yoon-Y-H.

IN INSTITUTION: Grad. Sch. Biosphere Sci., Hiroshima Univ., Saijo, Higashi-Hiroshima 724, Japan.

TI TITLE: Feeding habits of marine cladocerans in the Inland Sea of Japan.

SO SOURCE: MAR. BIOL., vol. 100, no. 3, pp. 313-318, 1989.

YR YEAR OF PUBLICATION: 1989.

PT PUBLICATION TYPE: Journal Article (J).

LG LANGUAGE: ENGLISH (EN).

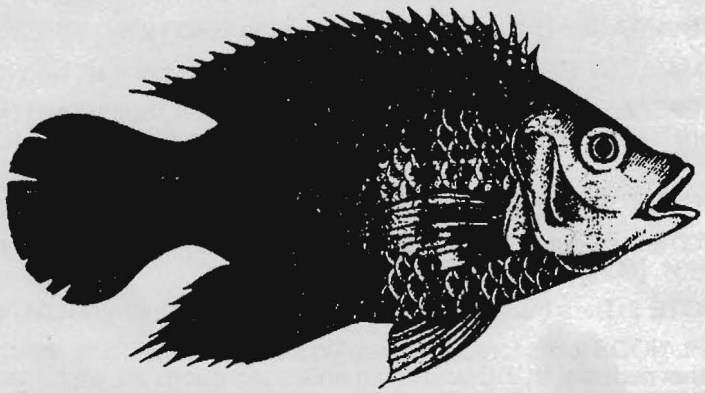
SS SUBSET: Ecology Abstracts (D).

DE DESCRIPTORS: diets. Evadne-nordmanni. Evadne-tergestina. Penilia-avirostris. Podon-leuckarti. Podon-polyphemoides. Japan-Inland-Sea. marine-environment. Cladocera.

AB ABSTRACT: Natural food items of five species of marine.....the gut of cladocerans.

On BRS, searchers search CSAL as one database with no duplicate citations. To accomplish the same search on Dialog, four databases are crossfile searched (using Dialog's OneSearch feature) and multiple citations will be retrieved for citations appearing in more than one of Cambridge's database. Of particular note, marine science citations will be retrieved from BRS's CSAL that do not appear in Dialog's ASFA or Oceanic Abstracts. A search of BRS' CSAL will access a broader range of marine science information than will a narrower search of Dialog's ASFA and Oceanic Abstracts. As a rough indication, a CSAL search revealed 2142 citations that contain the word "marine" but do not appear in ASFA or Oceanic Abstracts. Most of these references appear only in the Life Sciences Collection database or in Pollution Abstracts; a few do appear in ASFA or Oceanic Abstracts regardless of CSAL coding indicating that they do not. Some of the 2142 citations are directly on the marine environment while others are peripheral but relevant to the marine environment. To better illustrate this point, listed below are some titles from the 2142 citations that are directly on the marine environment. These titles were checked and they do not appear in ASFA or Oceanic Abstracts.

- Comparative marine chemistries of platinum group metals and their periodic table neighbors.
- Grazing, defecation and excretion rates of copepods from inter-island channels of the Canadian Arctic archipelago.
- Sex pheromone in a marine polychaete: Determination of the chemical structure.
- Lipids in marine diatoms of the genus Thalassiosira: Predominance of 24-methylenecholestero l.
- Marine fauna of Co. Wexford - 10. The Crustacea Decapoda of intertidal and brackish water habitats.
- Feeding habits of marine cladocerans in the Inland Sea of Japan.
- Ovothiols, a family of redox-active mercaptohistidine compounds from marine invertebrate eggs.
- Amino acid transport in the gill epithelium of a marine bivalve.
- Monitoring the marine environment.
- The role of economic benefits analysis in funding marine combined sewer overflow projects - case study of Boston Harbor.



IAMSLIC MEMBERSHIP (AS OF 8 AUGUST 1989)

Total number of members: 203

By type of membership:

Personal	128
Institutional	75

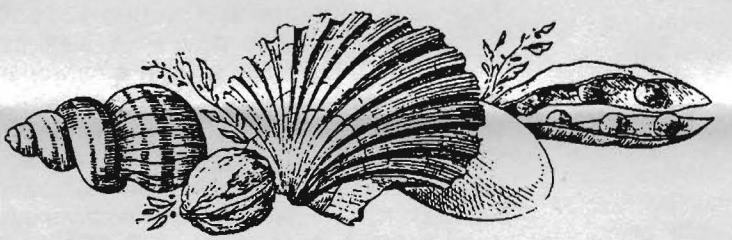
By Geographic region:

North America	150
Central America	1
Caribbean	3
South America	2
Europe	26
Near East	2
Africa	4
Asia	4
Australia/New Zealand	7
South Pacific	4

NEW CD-ROM PRODUCT

A new CD-ROM database product entitled **ARCTIC & ANTARCTIC REGIONS (AAR)** is being marketed by National Information Services Corporation (335 Paint Branch Dr, College Park, Maryland 20742, USA; 301-454-8040 or FAX 301-454-8061). Available for $595 annual subscription (volume discount available), AAR contains over 147,000 citations from Antarctic Bibliography and from Bibliography on Cold Regions Science and Technology. Coverage is from 1950 to present with annual updates; all data is on one disk. AAR is multidisciplinary for life, physical, applied, and social sciences and includes abstracts of articles from journals, monographs, reports, etc. AAR runs on IBM or compatible microcomputers with minimum 512K RAM, DOS 3.1+, hard disk recommended but not required, monochrome or color monitors, and Microsoft CD-ROM Extensions 2.00. AAR works with any CD-ROM player running Microsoft CD-ROM Extensions.

National Information Services Corporation also offers **SELECTED WATER RESOURCES ABSTRACTS (SWRA)** on CD-ROM. Available for the same price as AAR, SWRA corresponds to printed abstracting journal of the same name and the corresponding online database. SWRA is compiled by the US Geological Survey and offers 218,000 citations from 1967 to present with semiannual updates. SWRA indexes and abstracts water-related aspects of life, physical, applied, and social sciences worldwide.



COVERAGE OF CONFERENCE LITERATURE

ASFA users may be interested in a recent publication by Jonathan Sears entitled "Coverage of Conference Documents in Scientific Databases: Viewpoint of Cambridge Scientific Abstracts" SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY LIBRARIES, 9(2):35-45, Winter 1988. Jonathan discusses the nature of the conference literature and the difficulties in accessing it. He uses ASFA as a specific example in the article. Jonathan notes that approximately 22% of ASFA is conference literature and that 124 aquatic sciences serials are dedicated to meeting proceedings. Figures for the number of conference materials indexed in ASFA per year are given; this material is further detailed by its language of origin and document type. In his concluding remarks, Jonathan notes that a flexible approach to searching will improve results, e.g., use "variants of conference names, conference year, and key words in document titles or sponsoring agency names".

ALL WET ??:
IAMSLIC SHOULD SERVE THE AQUATIC SCIENCES

by Tom Moritz

I would like to suggest for membership consideration that IAMSLIC explicitly expand its scope to include all "aquatic" sciences.

There are several strong reasons for such a change:

- Many member institutions are already aquatic indefinition.
- Aquatic NOT marine science is the most logical discrete limit of the scientific community we serve.
- Aquaculture - an applied scientific community of international import - is an aquatic science.
- ASFIS/ASFA represents the aquatic sciences.

Defining the scope of our association as "aquatic" may:

- broaden our membership base
- increase revenues and resources available to the organization,
- strengthen our competitive eligibility for grant support.

The association's name could remain "IAMSLIC" with the "A" standing for both "Association"/"Aquatic"or it could become "IAAMSLIC" (International. Association of AQUATIC & Marine Science Libraries & Information Centers).

LET'S DISCUSS IT !

ASFA CD-ROM ENHANCEMENTS

Jon Sears

Cambridge Scientific Abstracts

Beginning with the August 1989 update, the ASFA CD-ROM will be updated quarterly. This will coincide with the delivery of the 3.3 release of Compact Cambridge/ASFA software. The new release offers the following new features:

LIMIT features:

Marine/Brackish/Fresh; ASFA 1/ASFA 2/Aquaculture/Marine Biotechnology; English language only; New Material

New Material (NM) indicator:

To allow searching only records added since the previous update.

More flexible Menu Level searching and windows:

When prompted for a term to search, the user will be able to enter either a single word, a phrase, a search statement including Boolean operators (i.e. bypassing the connectors menu), parentheses and/or proximity operators, or set numbers. The field specifications can also be entered here if desired, thus bypassing the field selection menu.

Basic Index field combination (TI, AB, DE):

Corresponding to the Basic Index of online systems such as Dialog, this presents the main subject-oriented fields in which a topic might be searched, often called a fulltext search. Thus a term (either uncontrolled or thesaurus descriptor) can be searched in the Title, Abstract and Descriptor fields together. Up till now, these fields would have to be toggled in order to carry out a search of this type.

Combination of Descriptor fields (BD, SD, GD, OD):

To solve the problem of mis-tagged descriptors, an "other descriptor" field which is a mixture of true identifiers (i.e. uncontrolled), as well as subject, taxonomic and geographic descriptors (controlled).

Combination of Identification Number fields (RN, PN, ON):

This will combine all document numbers, report numbers etc. in one field. However, ISBN and ISSN will be kept as separate fields.

Classification Number/Classification Index fields combined:

This will be a separate index, listing the subject category codes and their corresponding headings, to allow users to focus on the subject area of interest and locate the appropriate category code (Classification Number).

Searching of highlighted term(s):

In the Expand menu, this feature allows you to move the cursor to highlight and then search the required term(s).

Improved help screens:

The Help screens for Menu and Command level searching will be completely revised.

Multiple disc and networking capabilities:

The new software will support Compact Cambridge multidisc drives as well as the Meridian CD- Net system. With a networked installation, it will also be possible to perform searches on different Compact Cambridge databases simultaneously, e.g. ASFA, Life Sciences and Medline, or to save a search on one database and run it against another. On a single player system, it will be possible to change CD-ROMs without rebooting.

Upcoming enhancements:

- Automated Thesaurus display and retrieval
- Addition of "World List" (International Directory of Serial Publications in Aquatic Sciences and Fisheries)
- Full journal name field
- Printed Abstract Number field
- Gateway to BRS files including ASFA/Life Sciences
- Tagged/Untagged format choice

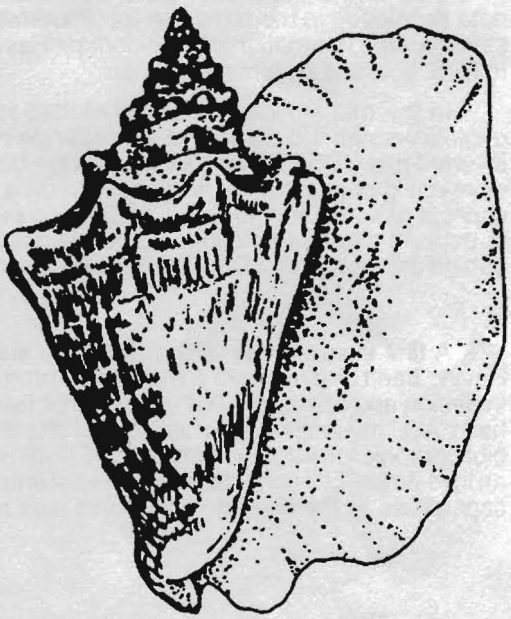
IAMSLIC CONFERENCE 1990

SEATTLE, WASHINGTON U.S.A.

1-5 OCTOBER 1990

PLAN NOW TO ATTEND

NOTES FROM ALL OVER .....



- For those without ready access to Omnet/ScienceNet Telemail, the Bitnet address for Peter Brueggeman, Scripps Institution of Oceanography Library is PBRUEGGEMAN@UCSD.EDU

- Angus Smith has left the library field and is pursuing a very different career with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. Regarding IAMSLIC, he states in his letter.....

  "I really enjoyed being a member of IAMSLIC. It is an incredibly friendly organization and there is a real feeling of belonging. I am also really impressed with its cooperative spirit and its truly international outlook. It's a little ironic that a bunch of librarians seem better able to undertake a collective, multi-lateral approach to problem solving than the scientific institutions and bureacratic entities that we serve in our professional capacities."

  His new address is: 63 Maclaren Street, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K2P 0K5

- Alfred Wegener Institut fuer Polar- und Meeresforschung
  Bibliothek
  Columbusstrasse
  Postfach 12 01 61
  2850 Bremerhaven
  F.R. Germany / West Germany
  may be reached the following ways:
  Tel: 471-4831-157
  Telefax: 471-4831-149
  Telex: 238695 polar d
  Teletex 471252=AWI

- NOW ACCESSIBLE VIA OMNET:
  Martha Thayer
  NOAA/NESDIS
  Seattle, WA
  Omnet/Sciencenet: PMEL.LIBRARY

  Linda Pikula
  NOAA/AOML
  Miami, Florida
  Omnet/Sciencenet: AOML.LIBRARY

- NEW ADDRESS:
  Elizabeth Fuseler-McDowell
  Head, Science and Technology Division
  Colorado State University
  The Libraries
  Fort Collins, Colorado 80523
  (303) 491-1876

- Kate McCain has requested that those who received copies of the ***survey from Drexel University*** about ASFA coverage please fill it out and return it as soon as possible.

- NEW PRODUCTS FROM CAMBRIDGE SCIENTIFIC

  MARINE BIOTECHNOLOGY ABSTRACTS, a new quarterly publication covers the spectrum of topics relevant to marine biotechnology with more than 2000 abstracts per year in addition to coverage of newly awarded patents in this area.

  AQUATIC POLLUTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY, Part 3 of Aquatic Sciences and Fisheries Abstracts, will monitor approximately 5000 sources to cover environmental issues in aquatic environments. Publication of this journal will commence in February 1990.

  For information about these publications, contact:
  Cambridge Scientific Abstracts
  7200 Wisconsin Avenue
  Bethesda, Maryland 20814
  (301) 961-6741

CDS/ISIS: A Bibliographic Software Package for Microcomputers

SOME BACKGROUND:

CDS/ISIS is a microcomputer descendant of ISIS (Integrated Set of Information Systems), a software system for textual data developed in the sixties by the International Labour Organization (ILO) for the IBM/360 mainframe computer. In the mid seventies the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) in Ottawa developed MINISIS which is functionally equivalent to ISIS, but runs on a minicomputer.

In the mid eighties UNESCO started to develop a microcomputer version of ISIS called MINI-MICRO CDS/ISIS. The original version 1.0 contained six separate modules, each with a different function, e.g. the ISISINV module maintained the inverted file. CDS/ISIS and MINISIS were both developed because there were no library management packages available to developing countries that were not run on a mainframe computer, and at a cost that developing countries could afford. The concept of being able to make a microcomputer handle data as does a mainframe (i.e using different modules of the system to perform different functions so that larger portions of the data can be handled on the screen at one time) was very much behind the design of CDS/ISIS, making it potentially extremely powerful.

COMPARISON WITH INMAGIC

A first session with CDS/ISIS soon shows the user the relevance of knowing the background history of this software. Having been derived from a mainframe program it is extremely powerful, and capable of any number of user definitions, both in design and operation. But on the other hand, because the early development took place about of 20 years ago, it does not have ALL the bells and whistles that the more sophisticated software junkie has become used to in this age of tailored bibliographic turnkey operations. CDS/ISIS is NOT as quickly useable as Inmagic. In fact an appreciation of CDS/ISIS requires an investment of a considerable period of time. But the more you learn about it, the more you begin to appreciate its wide-ranging capabilities as the chart demonstrates (see below).

SPECIFICATIONS

	CDS/ISIS vs.2.3	Inmagic vs.7.1
Maximum database size	16 million records	Limited by available storage
Maximum record size	8000 characters	No limit
Max. no. fields/rec.	200	75
Max. no. indexable fields	200	50 (AND must be first 50)
Supports		
subfields?	Yes	No
repeatable fields?	Yes	Yes*
subfielded repeatable fields?	Yes	No
authority files?	Yes	No
thesaurus online?	Yes	No
ISO 2709?	Yes	No
Maximum number words in a stopword file	799 user-defined	12 built-in
Multilingual?	Yes (Eng/Fre/Spa also Arabic/Chinese)	English only
Indexing techniques	1) complete field 2) subfields 3) word by word 4) terms between <> or //	1)complete field 2) word by word

*** Inmagic refers to an OCCURRENCE of a field as a subfield.**

CDS/ISIS - VERSION 2.3....A FEW OF ITS CHARACTERISTICS.

The six separate modules which form the framework of CDS/ISIS have been united in Version 2.3 so that they may each be accessed from the same umbrella menu.

For a large single database or for multi databases, the DOS partition size problem has been avoided by allowing the spread of system and database files over several directories and/or devices.

Function keys may now be programmed. Users of Version 1 will be glad to know that changes to any display format in the ISIS module may now be permanently saved with one keystroke. Such enhancements are certainly encouraging.

Various library functions which essentially use the same pool of data may now be "integrated." For instance an acquisitions module may be integrated with an online catalogue of monographs, government documents and technical reports. When the item is received, the record is upgraded to cataloguing standards without re-inputting. The acquisition data is now still available to staff if necessary, but is not normally accessible to the library patrons, who just see the regular catalogued record.

Authority files may be formed for names, acronyms etc., where insertion of the appropriate code causes the preferred name to be used.

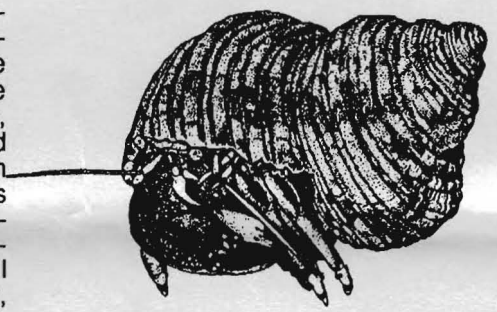
A thesaurus can be developed or added, then consulted for retrieval by one keystroke. Searching can take place from the thesaurus just as it can from the listing of words indexed (the Terms Dictionary). But use of a thesaurus is helpful with hierarchical and multilingual searching.The thesaural searching capability is in addition to the regular Boolean and proximity searching capabilities.

Both versions are multilingual, use ISO 2709 formats for ease of textual exchange but have little institutional backup support. Regional users groups have been the most efficient form of support to date. The new manual however, is a great improvement over the original, with an index, a glossary and clearer examples. A minimum of 640Kb is strongly recommended.

Another manual which should be of great help to many newcomers to CDS/ISIS is the " Manual for Preparing Records in Microcomputer-Based Bibliographic Information Systems" written by Anne Di Lauro. This will be published by IDRC in November, and has an Annex on CDS/ISIS.

EXTERNAL DATA EXCHANGE - ISO 2709

CDS/ISIS supports only the ISO 2709 standard for data exchange on both output and input mode. There is no batch input mode from a word processor, the ISISXCH module converts or produces ISO format files to or from the ISIS format. But programs have been written to convert data from DBase,



Inmagic, and ASCII files to the ISO 2709 standard for importing data into CDS/ISIS databases.

ISO 2709 was adopted by the International Organization for Standardisation in Geneva in 1973 as a format structure (as distinct from a complete format) for the exchange of textual data between systems. It consists of three segments:- a Label, a Directory (both of which are formed by the system and are control segments for the third segment), the data fields.

Use of ISO 2709 instead of the MARC format extends CDS/ISIS' usefulness as it can then be used to handle any textual database, not just bibliographic ones. Examples are:- Project databases, Personnel databases, a database of the Real Estate market would also be a good application. Examples of CDS/ISIS users known to me include an international airline and a Canadian banking institution, neither application being bibliographic. Nevertheless the primary purpose behind CDS/ISIS' development was and is to meet the need for a microcomputer-based library management package in developing countries.

When importing data, a database must already be suitably defined to accommodate it (i.e. must have equal or larger field lengths, and same subfield codes). If the data that is being imported is the primary data for the database (i.e. it is not being merged with other data already present) then additional database files have to be created by initializing the system in the ISISDEF module before the database is 'opened' and before importing is possible (These files are called ***.CNT, ***.XRF,***.L0?, ***N0?, where *** is database name).

Data from CDS/ISIS is easily uploaded into the MINISIS system. This is one of the many important uses of CDS/ISIS, as small organizations can interchange information with a larger or parent organization that uses MINISIS. The GEOSCAN database at the Canadian Department of Energy, Mines and Resources is one example of this. An alternative but similar use is the uploading from the PIMRIS (Pacific Islands Marine Resources Information System) CDS/ISIS database into the University of the South Pacific's URICA software via AUSMARC.

CDS/ISIS is a good tool for library use, and because of its availability to developing countries will be found there evermore frequently. Presently there are over 4000 users world-wide.

In the industrial nations CDS/ISIS is very competitive with other popular (and much more expensive) microcomputer programs, forming an attractive alternative for special libraries on small budgets. It would be wise, I think, for any IAMSLIC librarian who sees the necessity or desirability of a future exchange of bibliographic information with a developing country, or indeed with a smaller library in an industrialised country, to examine this software carefully.

Bridget McConnell
Information Resources Officer
International Centre for Ocean Development
Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada.